

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 84ISLAMA002721

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ACTION RP-10

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-00 EB-08 IO-15 NEA-06
SR-06 /O46 W

090806Z FEB 84
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2178
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: EAID, SREF, AF, PK
SUBJECT: U.S.-DONATED REFUGEE RELIEF TRUCKS

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 01636; (B) STATE 015029;
(C) 83 ISLAMABAD 1886

1. SUMMARY. RECENT MEETING OF EMBOFFS WITH COL. BABAR OF SAFRON GAVE LATTER A CHANCE TO REVIEW GOP'S PRIORITIES WITH REGARD TO EXPENDITURE OF REMAINING FUNDS (APPROXIMATELY US DOLS 250,000) FROM ORIGINAL U.S. DONATION OF INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER TRUCKS. GOP PRIORITIES (IN DESCENDING ORDER) ARE: 1) REPAIR FACILITY EQUIPMENT, 2) SUSPENSION/SUPERSTRUCTURE
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MODIFICATION, 3) SPARE PARTS, 4) ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE REPAIR FACILITY EQUIPMENT (COL. BABAR'S LETTER OF NOVEMBER 13, 1983, REF A). WE RECOMMEND EARLY ORDER OF REPAIR FACILITY EQUIPMENT (PARA 6 BELOW: -SEE RATRAY LETTER TO BABAR, JULY 5, 1982) FROM REMAINING 1981 FUNDS, WITH ANY LEFT OVER FUNDS TO BE PUT TOWARD MODIFICATION. WE ENDORSE THE NLC PLAN TO IMPROVE TRUCKS' SUSPENSION (SEE IH LETTER OF 8/21/83). WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND (PARA 7) THE

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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DEPT CONSIDER ALLGTING UP TO US DOLS 140,000 FOR
MODIFICATION OF THE 240 VEHICLE FLEET. WE ALSO
RECOMMEND THAT DEPARTMENT CONSIDER ALLOCATING US DOLS
200,000 FOR MORE SPARE PARTS.

AT MEETING GOP OFFICIALS ALSO OUTLINED SOME OF THEIR
OVERALL REFUGEE RELIEF TRANSPORTATION NEEDS (PARA 9)
AND REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE FROM FRG (PARA 10). A
RECENT CABINET LEVEL DECISION (PARA 8) TO SHIP MORE
BY TRUCK AND LESS BY RAIL ENSURES CONTINUING HIGH COST
OF TRANSPORTING REFUGEE RELIEF ITEMS TO GOP. END
SUMMARY.

5. ON JANUARY 27 WE MET WITH STATES AND FRONTIER
REGIONS DIVISION (SAFRON) JOINT SECRETARY, COL. A.M.
BABAR AND NATIONAL LOGISTICS CELL'S (NLC) COLONEL
ROY TO REVIEW PERFORMANCE OF U.S. DONATED TRUCKS AND
TO DISCUSS REFUGEE COMMODITY TRANSPORT ISSUES.
COLONEL BABAR ASKED US WHAT WE THOUGHT OF HIS RECENT
(NOV. 13, 1983) REQUEST FOR US DOLS 900,000 WORTH
OF MAINTENANCE REPAIR FACILITY EQUIPMENT (SEE REF A).
WE SAID WE WERE GLAD AT LAST TO HAVE COMPLETE
PICTURE OF GOP VIEWS ON SUPPORT NEEDS FOR THE U.S.-
DONATED IH TRUCKS. WE NOTED THAT IN 1982 THE
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MANUFACTURER'S LIST OF EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS WAS
COSTED OUT AT ABOUT US DOLS 110,000 FOR EACH OF THE
TWO WORKSHOPS. POINTING OUT THAT MONEY IS TIGHT
(REF B), WE SAID THAT WE WOULD NOT (RP1) NOT EXPECT
THE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL FOR MORE THAN THE US DOLS
250,000 NOW SET ASIDE FOR THE SHOPS. COLONEL BABAR
THEN ASKED US TO ORDER THE (SHORT LIST) OF MANUFACT-
URER-RECOMMENDED ITEMS FOR TWO REPAIR WORKSHOPS. AT
US DOLS 110,000 EACH, CONTAINED IN EMBASSY LETTER
(RATTRAY TO BABAR) JULY 5, 1982. ONE WORKSHOP WILL
BE IN PESHAWAR AND ONE IN QUETTA. THIS, HE SAID
WAS HIS FIRST CHOICE FOR SPENDING THE REMAINDER OF THE
U.S. GRANT. HE ALSO ASKED IF ANY FUNDS LEFT OVER
FROM THE PURCHASE COULD BE USED IN THE CURRENT
UPGRADING OF THE U.S. TRUCKS' SUSPENSIONS AND SUPER-
STRUCTURES NOW BEING UNDERTAKEN BY NLC. WE AGREED
TO QUERY DEPARTMENT AS TO ITS VIEWS ON THE MATTER.

3. U.S. TRUCKS' PERFORMANCE: REQUEST FOR MODIFICATION.
COLONEL ROY OF THE NLC COMMENTED THAT THE U.S. TRUCKS
HAVE PERFORMED RATHER WELL. POWERTRAIN PROBLEMS HAVE
BEEN FEW, HE SAID, AND MECHANICALLY THE U.S. TRUCKS
COMPARE FAVORABLY WITH JAPANESE AND EUROPEAN COMPET-
ITORS. AS TO THEIR OVERALL UTILITY, ROY HOPES THAT
NLC'S UPGRADING PROJECT - WHICH WOULD BEEF UP SUSPEN-
SIONS AND MODIFY CARGO SPACE TO BETTER MEET REFUGEE

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NEEDS - WILL BE FULLY FUNDED. HE IS ASKING FOR
US DOLS 181,000 FOR THE PROJECT. COLONEL BABAR ASKED
IF THERE IS A CHANCE THE U.S. WILL FUND THE MODIFICA-
TIONS. WE AGAIN RESPONDED THAT FUNDS ARE SCARCE BUT
WOULD PASS THE REQUEST ON TO WASHINGTON. SEE IH LETTER
OF AUGUST 21, 1962, PCUCHED TO DEPT. FOR DETAILS.

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ACTION RP-10

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-00 EB-08 IO-15 NEA-06
SR-06 /046 W
-----102120 100221Z /72

W 090806Z FEB 84
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2179
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL KARACHI
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4. SPARE PARTS. COLONEL ROY SAID THAT U.S. TRUCK
SPARE PARTS FROM THE PRESENT THROUGH JUNE, 1985
WILL COME TO RS. 5.5 MILLION OR US DOLS 407,000.
APPARENTLY THE PARTS SITUATION IS CURRENTLY IN HAND
AND A SMALL BALANCE REMAINS FROM THE INVENTORY INITIAL-
LY PROCURED. BUT ACCORDING TO SAFRON AND THE NLC, IT
REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHERE IN THE NATIONAL BUDGET FUNDS
WILL BE FOUND TO ORDER THE BACKLOG OF PARTS NEEDED
TO KEEP THE U.S.-DONATED TRUCKS ROLLING.
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5. UNHCR UNDERWRITES REPAIR FACILITIES. UNHCR HAS
INFORMED US THAT THEY CONTRIBUTED RS. 12,000,000
(ABOUT ONE MILLION US DOLLARS) TO NLC - 8 MILLION IN
1982 AND ANOTHER 5 MILLION IN 1983. COL. BABAR SAID
THAT THIS MONEY IS BEING USED TO BUILD TRUCK REPAIR
FACILITIES IN WHICH U.S. REPAIR WORKSHOP EQUIPMENT
WILL BE USED. FACILITIES IN PESHAWAR AND QUETTA SHOULD
BE FINISHED IN JULY AND SEPTEMBER RESPECTIVELY. UNHCR/

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ISLAMABAD SAID THEY WOULD NOT CONTRIBUTE FURTHER TO OVERLAND TRANSPORT COSTS AND THE PAKISTANIS ARE NOT, WE BELIEVE, LIKELY TO ASK.

6. GOP PRIORITIES FOR U.S. TRUCKS. SAFRON AND NLC AGREE THAT THEIR PRIORITIES FOR EXPENDITURES RELATING TO THE 8 MILLION DOLLAR U.S. TRUCK PACKAGE ARE AS FOLLOWS: (1) REPAIR FACILITY EQUIPMENT, (2) SUSPENSION/SUPERSTRUCTURE MODIFICATION, (3) SPARE PARTS, (4) ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE FACILITY EQUIPMENT (SEE COL. BABAR'S LETTER OF NOV. 13, 1983). WE AGREE WITH THE ORDER OF IMPORTANCE AND RECOMMEND THAT EQUIPMENT FOR TWO REPAIR FACILITIES, ONE IN PESHAWAR AND ONE IN QUETTA (1982 COST: DOLS 110,000 EACH), BE ORDERED NOW FROM REMAINING DOLS 250,000. WE ALSO ENDORSE THE NLC PLAN TO IMPROVE THE TRUCKS' SUSPENSION AND TO MODIFY THE SUPERSTRUCTURE SO THAT THE WHOLE GAMUT OF RELIEF COMMODITIES CAN BE HAULED WITH FACILITY AND WITHOUT FURTHER DAMAGE TO THE U.S.-DONATED FLEET. INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER TECHNICIANS ENDORSE THE (LARGELY LOCAL IN-PUT) MODIFICATIONS, AND THE US DOLS 756 PER TRUCK COST IS DEFINITELY WELL WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF COST EFFECTIVENESS (CONTAINED IN BABAR'S LETTER OF 11/13/83). SPARE PARTS WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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BE PROBLEMATIC: UNTIL THE FEDERAL BUDGET BEGINS TO DEAL REALISTICALLY WITH THE UNPLEASANT PROBABILITY OF A VERY LONG-TERM REFUGEE PROBLEM, THIS KIND OF CONTINGENCY WILL BE ALLOTTED A LOWER THAN DESERVED PRIORITY.

7. ON BALANCE IT LOOKS AS IF THE UTILITY OF OUR DONATED TRUCKS MIGHT BE ENHANCED BY A TIMELY CONTRIBUTION OF FUNDS, ON A ONE TIME BASIS, FOR MODIFICATIONS AND SPARE PARTS. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT ON A CONTINGENCY BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDER ALLOTING UP TO DOLS 140,000 FOR THE MODIFICATION OF THE 240 VEHICLE FLEET AND ANOTHER DOLS 200,000 FOR AN INVENTORY OF SPARE PARTS. SPARES ORDERED WITH TRUCKS ARE ALMOST USED UP AND A TEMPORARY INVENTORY SHOULD TIDE NLC OVER UNTIL LINE ITEM FOR SPARES APPEARS IN GOP BUDGET.

8. TURNING TO BROADER TRANSPORTATION ISSUES, COL. BABAR AND COL. ROY REPORTED THAT A RECENT CABINET-LEVEL DECISION MANDATES THAT THE PREPONDERANCE OF REFUGEE-DESTINED COMMODITIES WILL HENCEFORTH BE SHIPPED BY ROAD, RATHER THAN RAIL, FROM KARACHI. THE NEW RATIO WILL BE ONLY 25 PERCENT BY RAIL AND 75 PERCENT BY ROAD. DECISION WAS TAKEN DESPITE THE FACT THAT ROAD TRANSPORT OF BULK COMMODITIES IS THREE TIMES

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9. SHORT TERM PROBLEM NLC FACES UNDER NEW SYSTEM WILL BE TO MOVE 95 THOUSAND METRIC TONS OF REFUGEE FOOD

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SR-06 /O4G W

-----102122 100221Z /72

0000R 090806Z FEB 84
0000FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
0000TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2180
0000INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
0000USMISSION GENEVA
0000AMCONSUL KARACHI
0000AMCONSUL LAHORE
0000AMCONSUL PESHAWAR

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0000COMMODITIES FROM KARACHI TO BALUCHISTAN (75K) AND TO
0000NWFP (20K). ASIDE FROM FINDING CARRIERS TO DO THE
0000HAULING OTHER PROBLEMS LOOM, NOT THE LEAST OF WHICH
0000IS FINDING RS. 100 MILLION (US DOLL 7 MILLION 400
THOUSAND) TO COVER OVERLAND TRANSPORTATION COSTS.

10. REQUEST FOR TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE FROM FRG.
COLONEL BABAR SAID THAT HE HOPES FOR HAULING COSTS
RELIEF OVER THE LONG TERM IN THE FORM OF AID FROM
THE FRG. A GOP PROPOSAL REQUESTING 100 MERCEDES TWENTY
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TON TRACTOR-TRAILER RIGS TO TRANSPORT REFUGEE
COMMODITIES HAS BEEN SUBMITTED THROUGH THE GERMAN
EMBASSY TO BONN AND SAFRON CONSIDERS CHANCES FOR
APPROVAL TO BE GOOD. COL. BABAR SAID HE IS LESS
SANGUINE THAT A PARALLEL REQUEST, ALSO TO BONN, FOR
AN UNDISCLOSED NUMBER OF LOCOMOTIVES WILL BE FAVORABLY
CONSIDERED. HE PROMISED IN ANY CASE TO GET COPIES OF
THE PROPOSALS TO US (WHICH WE WILL FORWARD FOR YOUR
INFORMATION). HINTON



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